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Atlantic bluefin tuna

2016 BFT Fisheries in Review and Amendment 7 Implementation Updates

September 7, 2016

2016 BFT Fisheries in Review

- Various Inseason Actions (quota transfers)
- Adjusted 2016 Northern Albacore and BFT Reserve category quota
- Handgear Fisheries Information
- Purse Seine Fishery Information
- Pelagic Longline Fishery Information





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List of inseason and Amendment 7 (A7) -related actions for 2016 to date

Two A7-related quota adjustments

- 101.4 mt from Purse Seine category to Reserve category using A7 formula (January 2016, A7 authority)
- Adjusted 2016 Northern Albacore Quota and 2016 BFT Reserve Category Quota (September 2016, A7 authority)

Two inseason quota transfers

- 24.3 mt within General category from December 2016 to January-March 2016 (December 2015, A7 authority)
- 34 mt from Reserve category to Longline category (January)

Four daily retention limit adjustments

- Angling category, effective April 23-December 31
- General category: January-March; June-August; and September-December

Two closures

- Angling category Trophy South, effective April 10
- Angling category Trophy North, effective August 6



Adjusted Northern Albacore (NALB) Quota and BFT Reserve Category Quota for 2016



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NMFS adjusted the NALB annual baseline quota for 2016 with available underharvest of the 2015 adjusted U.S. NALB quota, and augmented the 2016 BFT Reserve category quota with available underharvest of the 2015 adjusted U.S. BFT quota, consistent with the annual quota adjustment processes established in Amendment 7.

NALB

2015 baseline quota: 527 mt	2015 adjusted quota: 541.31 mt
2015 catch: 247.70 mt	2015 underharvest: 293.61 mt
2016 baseline quota: 527 mt	2016 adjusted quota: 658.75 mt

Per the current ICCAT NALB recommendation, only 25% percent of the total 2015 U.S. quota, or 131.75 mt, may be carried forward to the 2016 fishing year.

**Consistent with the process established in Amendment 7, the
adjusted 2016 NALB quota = 527 mt + 131.75 mt = 658.75 mt.**

Adjusted BFT Reserve Category Quota for 2016



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BFT

2015 baseline U.S. quota: 1,083.79

2015 catch: 896.30 mt

2016 baseline Reserve quota: 24.8 mt

2015 adjusted quota: 1,178.66 mt

2015 underharvest: 282.36 mt

2016 adjusted Reserve quota: 200.58 mt

Per the current ICCAT BFT recommendation, only 10% percent of the total 2015 U.S. quota, or 108.38 mt, may be carried forward to the 2016 fishing year.

**Consistent with the process established in Amendment 7,
the adjusted 2016 BFT Reserve category quota =
24.8 mt + 101.4 mt (from PS*) – 34 mt (transfer → Longline*) + 108.38 mt =
200.58 mt.**

* Effective January 1, 2016, NMFS adjusted the Reserve category quota for 2016 to 92.2 mt by reallocating 101.4 mt of Purse Seine quota to the Reserve category (based on 2015 catch by Purse Seine category participants and provisions for calculating Purse Seine allocations in Amendment 7) and also transferring 34 mt of Reserve category quota to the Longline category (81 FR 19, January 4, 2016).



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2016 Angling Category (Recreational) Retention Limits

January 1-April 22 (private and charter vessels):

- 1 school, large school, or small medium BFT/vessel/day (default)

April 23-Dec. 31: (responsive to AP suggestion)

Permit Category (Vessel Type)	Retention Limit per Vessel per Day/Trip
HMS Angling (Private)	2 school BFT (27 to <47") <u>and</u> 1 large school/small medium BFT (47 to <73")
HMS Charter/Headboat (when fishing recreationally for BFT)	3 school BFT (27 to <47") <u>and</u> 1 large school/small medium BFT (47 to <73")

Trophy category: 1 large medium/giant (73"+) BFT/vessel/year

- **Southern area closed April 10** **Northern area closed August 6**



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LPS BFT Catch data 2014 – 2016 (as of July 2016)

Total Catch (Kept+Alive+Dead)					Kept				Released Alive			
2014	School	LS	SM	subtotal	School	LS	SM	subtotal	School	LS	SM	subtotal
Jun	21	44	78	143	12	44	40	96	9	0	38	47
Jul	1423	689	85	2197	1045	392	85	1522	378	297	0	675
Aug	1425	469	422	2316	549	297	310	1156	876	172	112	1160
Sept	56	152	415	623	46	116	48	210	10	36	366	412
Oct	93	304	251	648	53	119	66	238	40	185	185	410
	3018	1658	1251	5927	1705	968	549	3222	1313	690	701	2704
Total Catch (Kept+Alive+Dead)					Kept				Released Alive			
2015	School	LS	SM	subtotal	School	LS	SM	subtotal	School	LS	SM	subtotal
June	1647	56	16	1719	301	56	16	373	1346	0	0	1346
July	2023	406	215	2644	1038	316	128	1482	984	90	87	1161
Aug	116	97	599	812	97	59	182	338	19	38	417	474
Sept	93	404	775	1272	68	202	228	498	25	202	547	774
Oct	25	11	61	97	0	0	37	37	25	11	25	61
	3904	974	1666	6544	1504	633	591	2728	2399	341	1076	3816
Total Catch (Kept+Alive+Dead)					Kept				Released Alive			
2016	School	LS	SM	subtotal	School	LS	SM	subtotal	School	LS	SM	subtotal
Jun	127	53	70	250	104	53	50	207	23	0	20	43
Jul	2628	1420	237	4285	1554	1073	180	2807	1074	348	57	1479
Aug				0				0				0
Sept				0				0				0
Oct				0				0				0
	2755	1473	307	4535	1658	1126	230	3014	1097	348	77	1522

2016 Commercial Retention Limits



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General Category:

January 1 – March 31:	2 large medium or giant BFT/vessel/day
June 1 – August 31:	5 large medium or giant BFT/vessel/day
September 1 – December 31:	5 large medium or giant BFT/vessel/day

(responsive to AP suggestion)

Harpoon Category:

June 1 – November 15:	2 large medium & unlimited giant BFT/vessel/day
Nov 16 – Dec 31:	Closed



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Atlantic Tunas BFT Dealer Data

As of August 25, 2016, preliminary commercial landings for the 2016 fishing year are as follows:

- General category has landed 235.0 mt out of 466.7 mt
- Harpoon category has landed 27.4 mt out of 38.6 mt
- Longline category has landed 66.4 mt out of 182.3 mt.
- Purse seine category has landed 0.0 out of 82.9 mt
- Trap category has landed 0.0 out of 1.0 mt



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BFT Reporting Requirement for General, Harpoon, and Charter/Headboat Categories

- **Vessels are required to report the length of all BFT retained or discarded dead through online catch reporting system within 24 hours of landing or end of each trip**
- **Outreach to the fishery continues**
 - **Reminder listserv with reporting instructions/screenshots**
 - **NOAA Office of Law Enforcement outreach**
- **Mobile app development continues**



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Change in BFT Dealer Reporting Methodology

- On July 28, 2016, NMFS implemented electronic dealer reporting for BFT
- Dealers now must report all BFT landings via Standard Atlantic Fisheries Information System (SAFIS)
- Other reporting requirements (tagging; biweekly dealer reports) remain in effect
- NMFS is developing the technology necessary to allow use of SAFIS file upload and NE Triptickets in addition to SAFIS



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BFT Reporting Requirement for General, Harpoon, and Charter/Headboat Categories

Quota Category	Year	Dealer Reports		Online Reports		% Compliance	
		# Fish	# Fishermen	# Fish	# Fishermen	% Fish Reported	% Fishermen Reporting
General	2015	3,126	664	441	88	14.1	13.3
	2016*	1,541	365	515	126	33.4	24.7
Harpoon	2015	278	7	254	7	91.4	100.0
	2016*	136	7	89	4	65.6	57.1
Total	2015	3,404	671	695	95	20.4	14.2
	2016*	1,677	372	604	130	36.0	34.9

* Approximate number through August 31, 2016



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Purse Seine Fishery

- Start date is set annually, within a range of June 1-August 15, and season ends December 31
- NMFS has not announced a Purse Seine fishery start date for 2016 and the fishery remains closed until announced via a Federal Register Notice
- No vessels are currently permitted to fish for BFT with purse seine gear
- NMFS received an EFP request for 2016 for:
 1. exemption from tolerance of large medium BFT and
 2. exemption from having a permitted Purse Seine category vessel
- NMFS is reviewing the request



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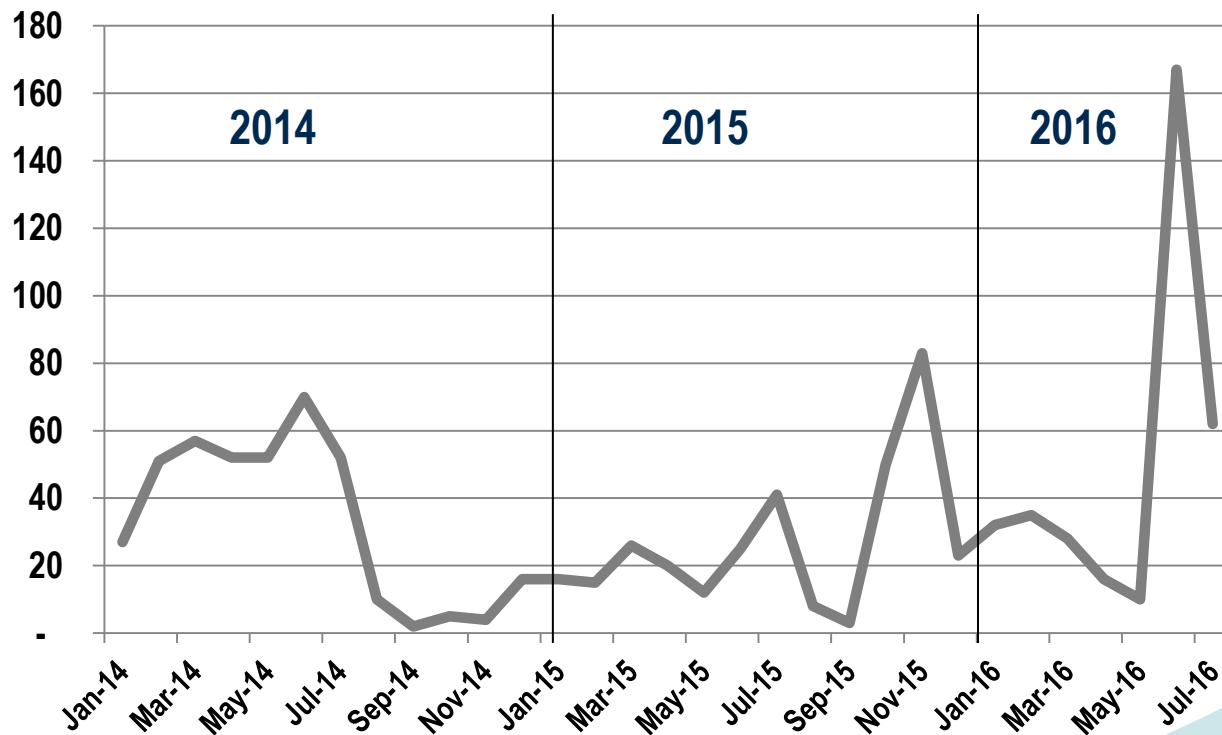
2016 Pelagic Longline Fishery

- 2016: Year Two of Amendment 7 Implementation;
 - Recall extensive background/data on Amendment 7 shared during March AP meeting
 - Additional updated A7 data available as a supplement to this presentation
 - Slides from Spring 2016 AP meeting available on HMS AP website:
http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/advisory_panels/hms_ap/meetings/ap_meetings.html



BFT Landings by PLL by month 2014 – 2016*

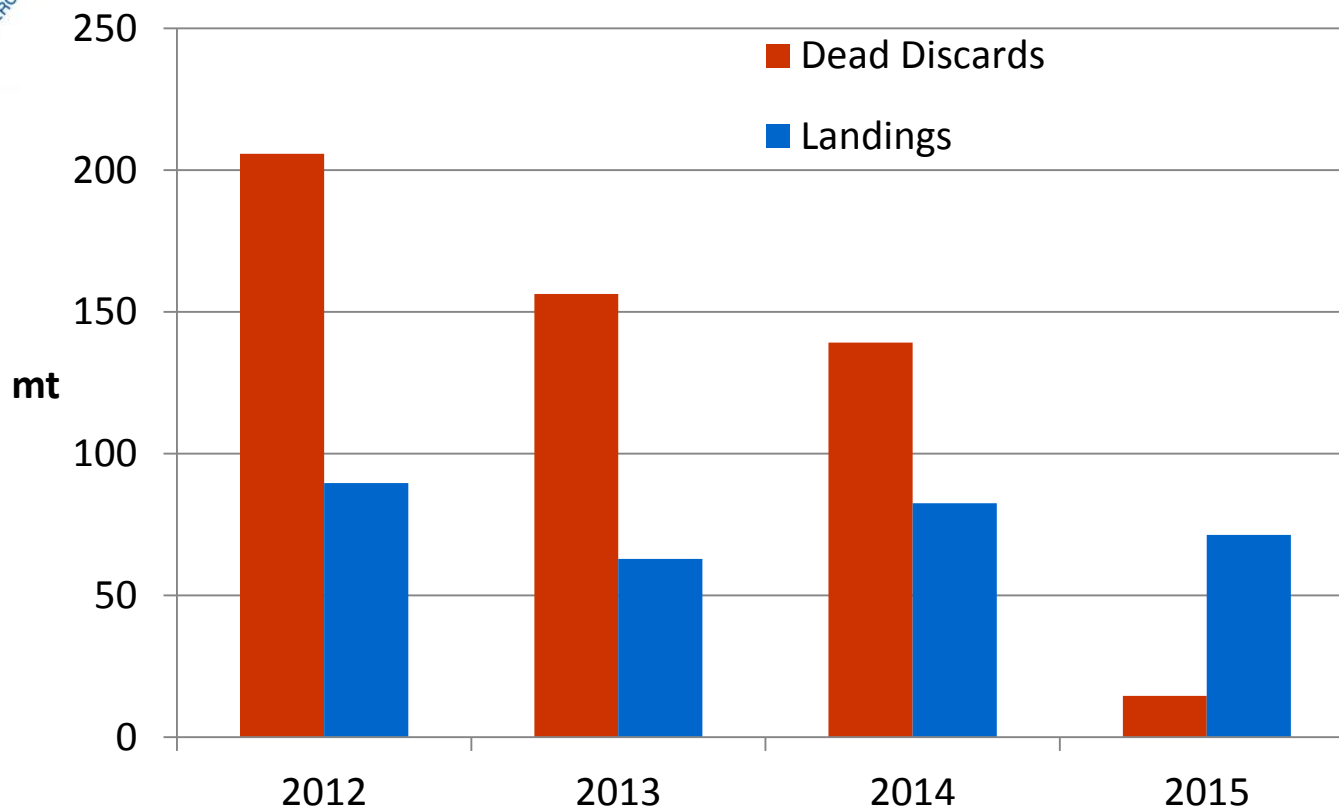
fish



Source: Dealer and IBQ data; * through July 2016



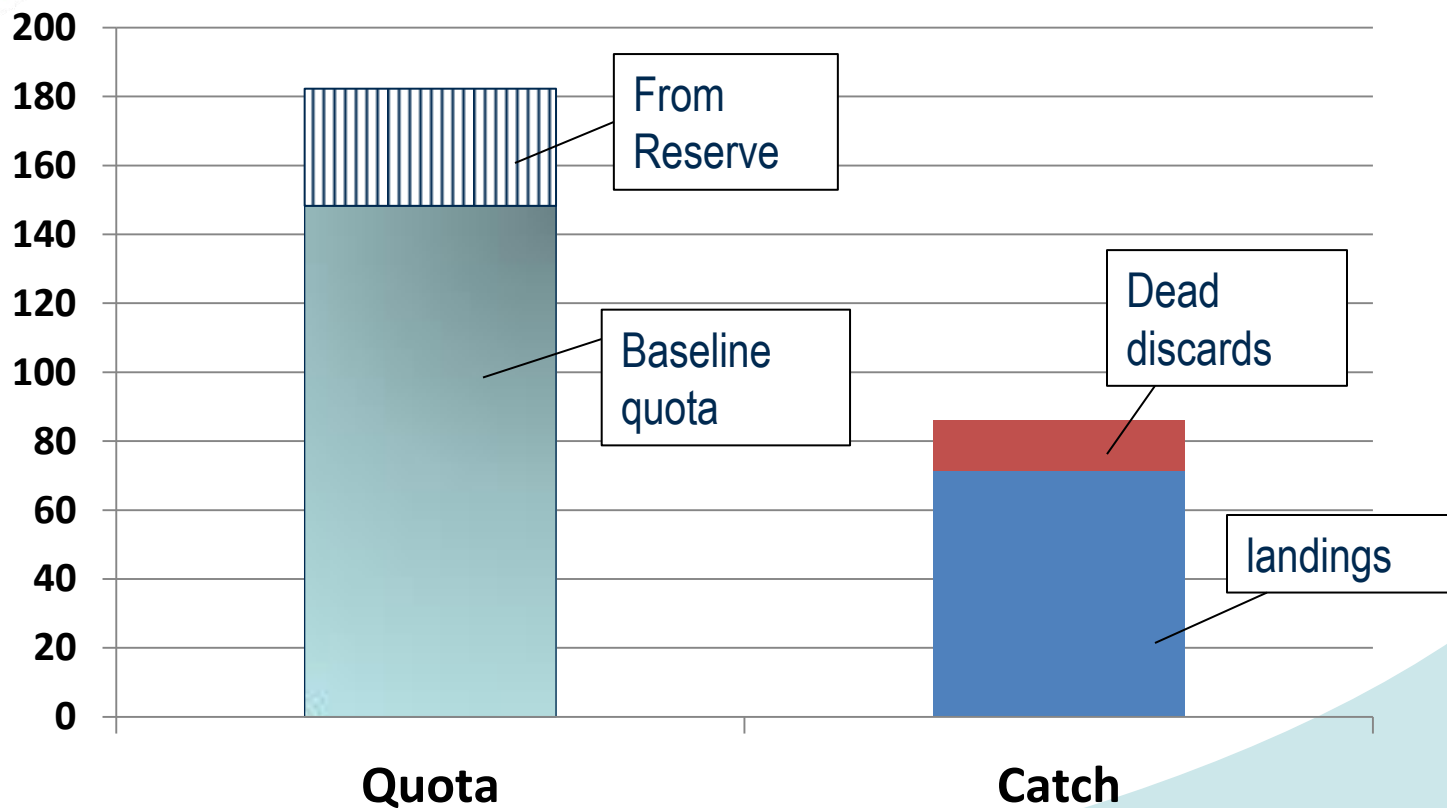
Pelagic Longline Bluefin Landings and Dead Discards (mt)



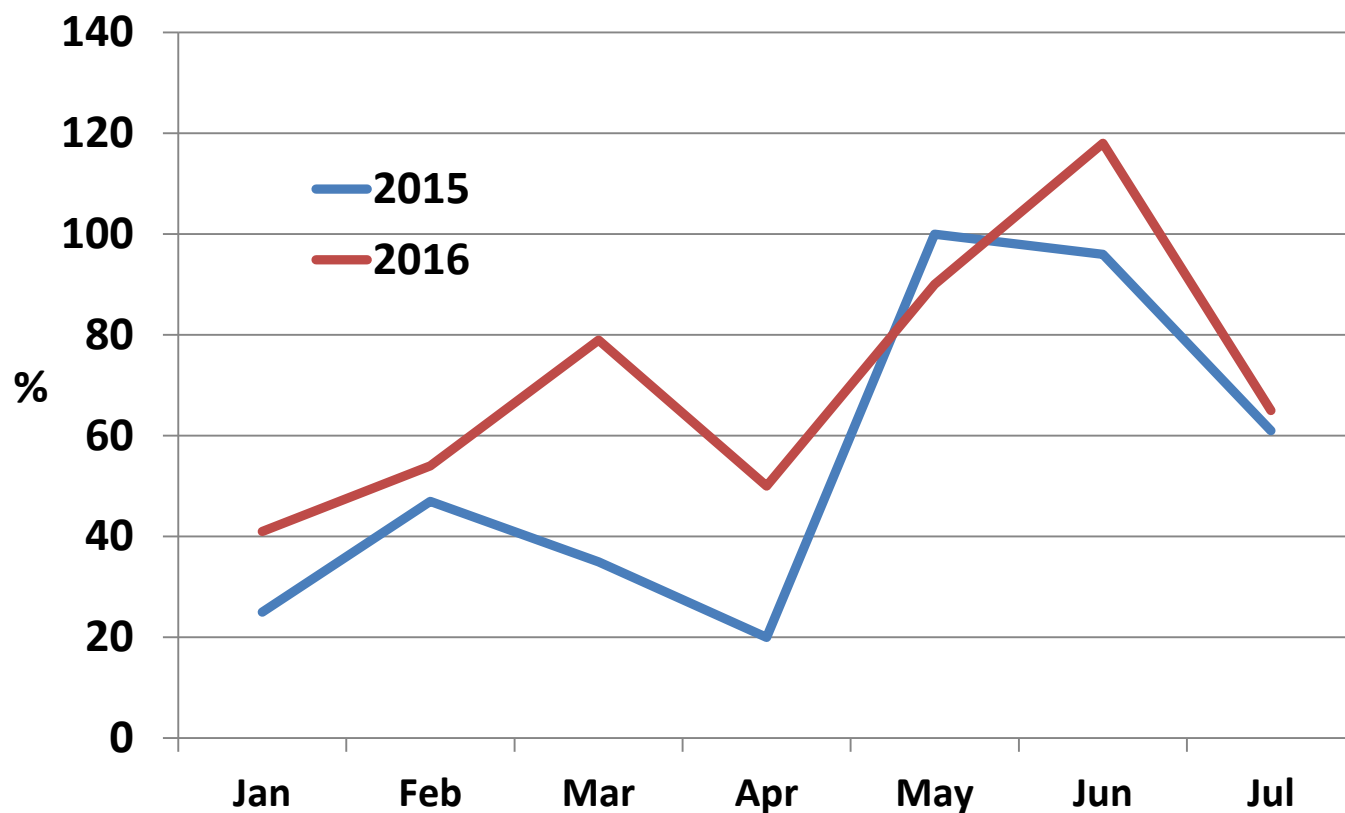
Includes NED; Dead discard estimate based on observer data, extrapolated using logbook fishing effort; Landings are dealer data.



Pelagic Longline 2015 Bluefin Quota and Catch (mt)



Percentage of landed (dealer-reported) bluefin that were reported through VMS by month 2015 and 2016



Source: VMS bluefin catch reports; Dealer data



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VMS Reporting Compliance (retained BFT), Jan-Jun 2016

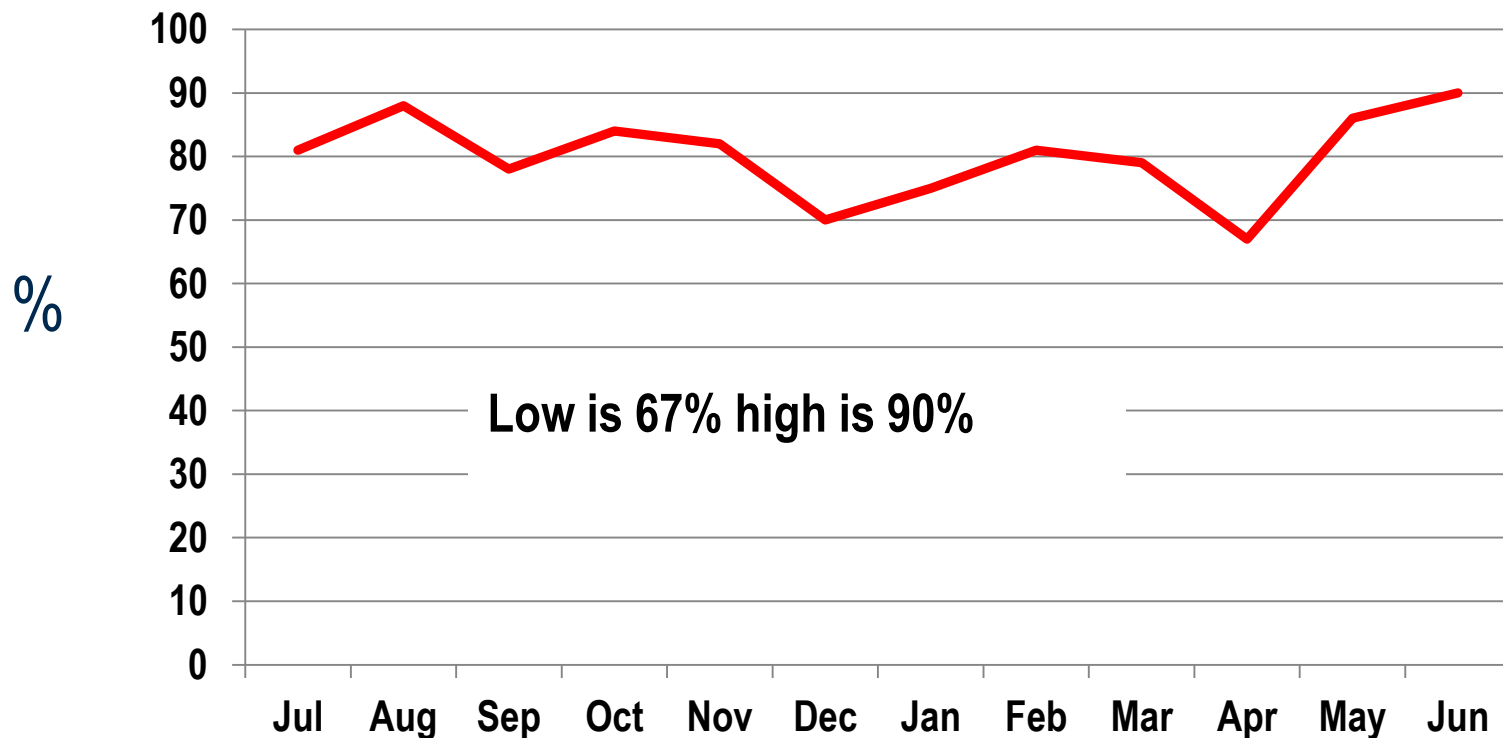
- 52 vessels landed BFT at a dealer
- 44% had instances where they did not report the fish via VMS (i.e., 23 of the 52 vessels that landed BFT at dealer)
- 12% had multiple instance of not reporting BFT retained via VMS (i.e., 6 vessels of the 52 vessels that landed BFT at dealer)
- 80% of BFT landed were reported via VMS (i.e., 244 BFT reported out of 281 landed)

Source: VMS BFT catch reports; Dealer data



Percent of Vessels Mailing in Electronic Monitoring Hard Drives

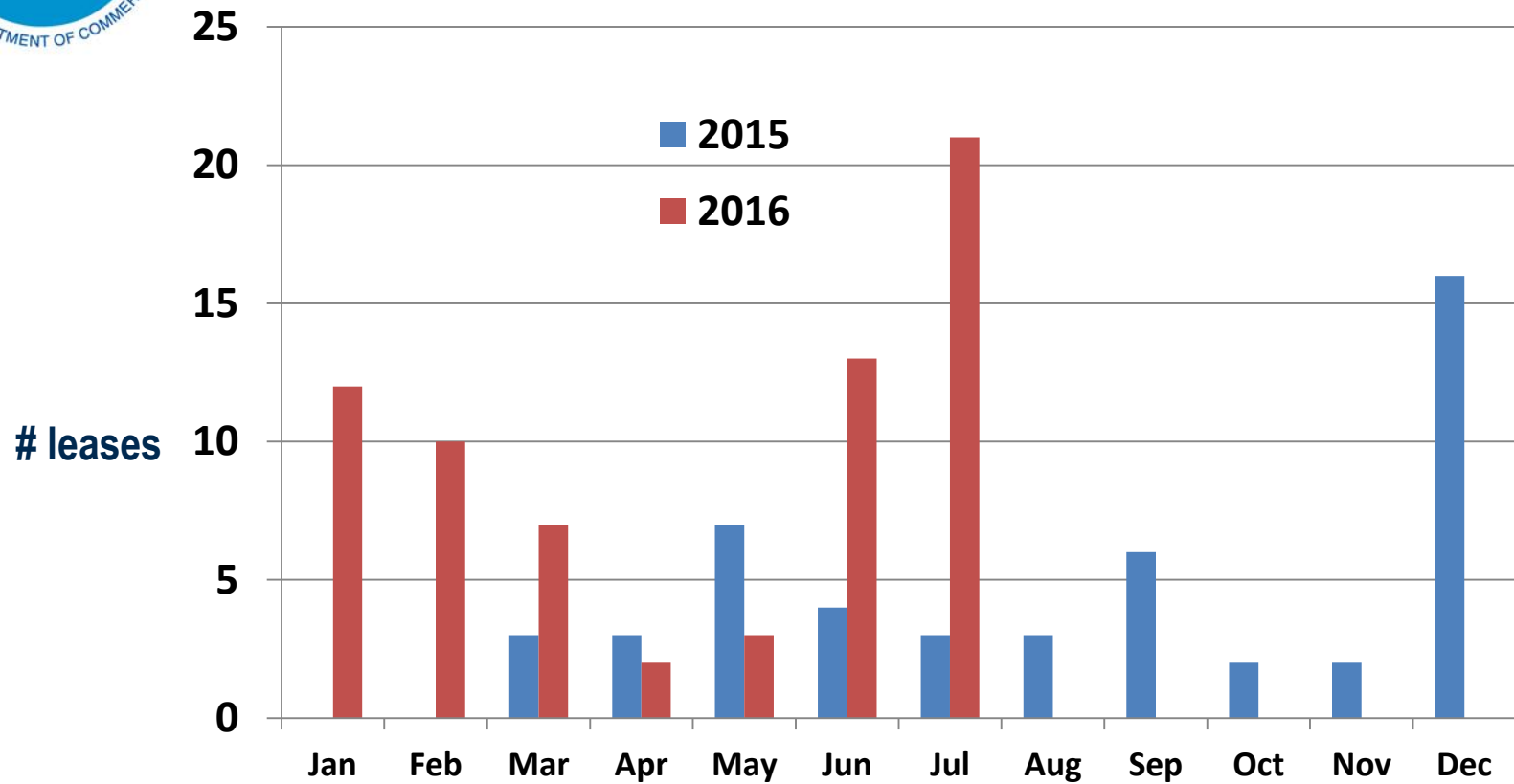
(June 2015 – June 2016)



Source: VMS BFT catch reports; Electronic Monitoring Data)



IBQ Lease Transactions 2015, 2016*



Source: IBQ system; *2016 through July

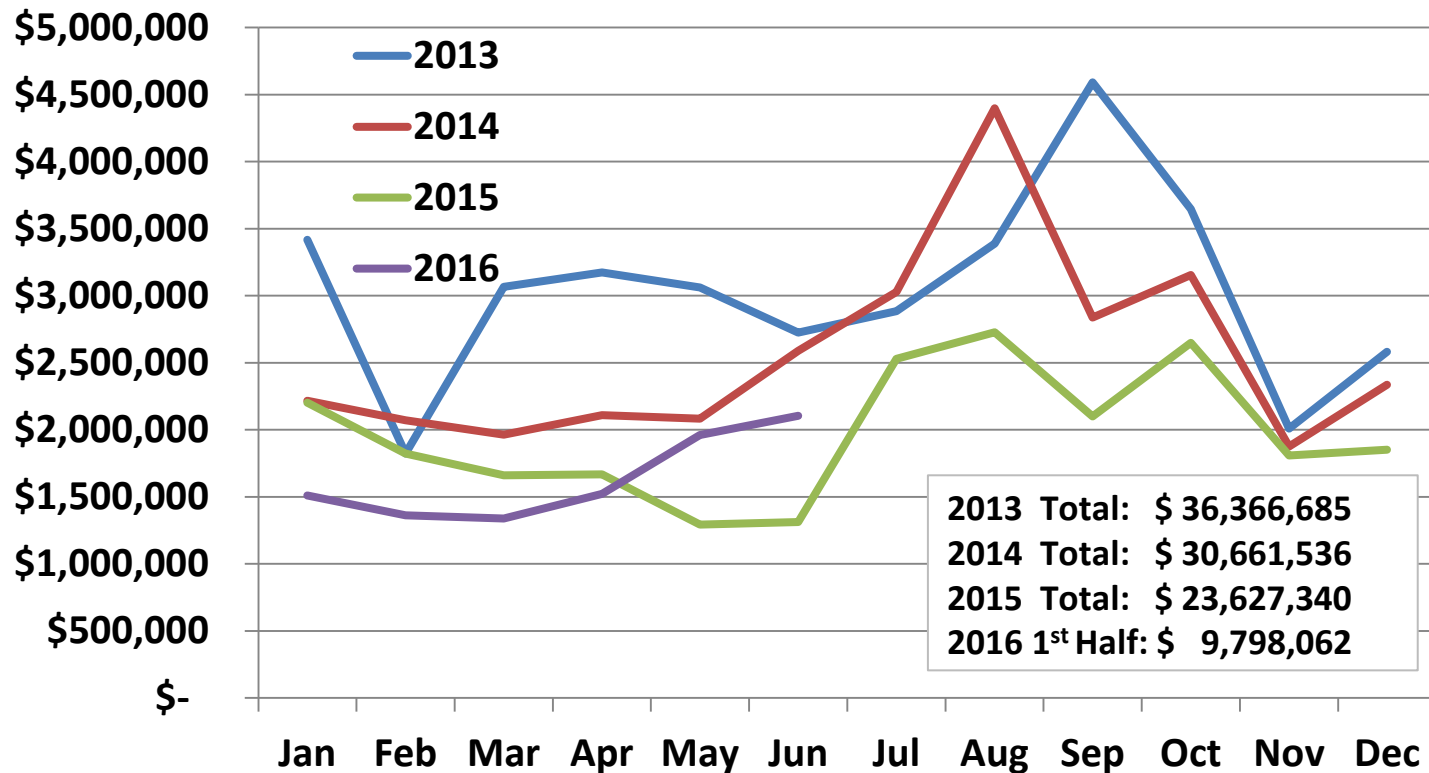


VMS, Logbook, and EM Data on PLL Fishing Effort (January through June)*

Metric	2015	2016
# trips (VMS hail ins)	572	591
# trips (logbook)	549	405
# sets (VMS catch reports)	2,111	2,794
# sets (logbook)	3,560	2,537
# vessels (VMS catch reports)	77	72
# vessels (logbook)	95	70
# vessels submitting EM hard drives	88*	76
# hooks (VMS catch reports)	1,708,467	2,269,520
# hooks (logbook)	2,727,650	1,987,757

* Hard drive count for 2015 is June through December

PLL Revenue by Month 2013 - 2016



2013 revenue was highest in all months except Jul and Aug 2014; and higher than all of 2015.

Source: eDealer Data

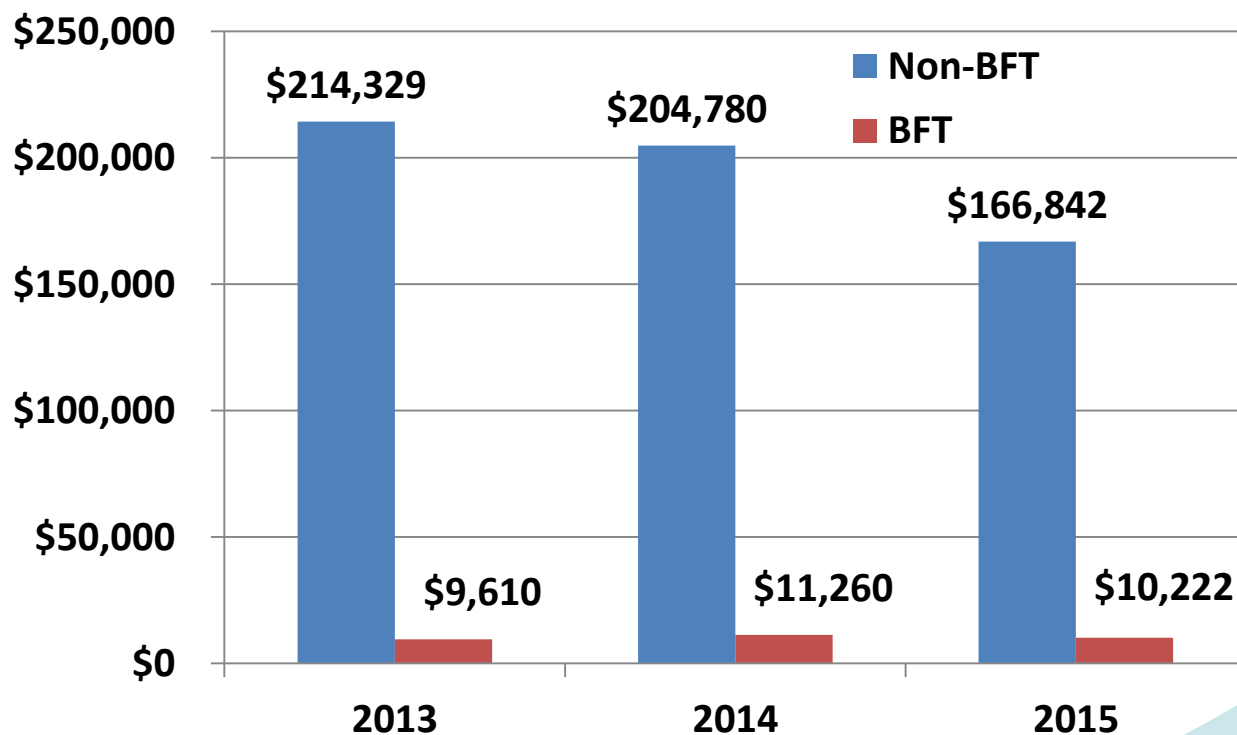


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Annual Revenue per Vessel 2013 - 2015



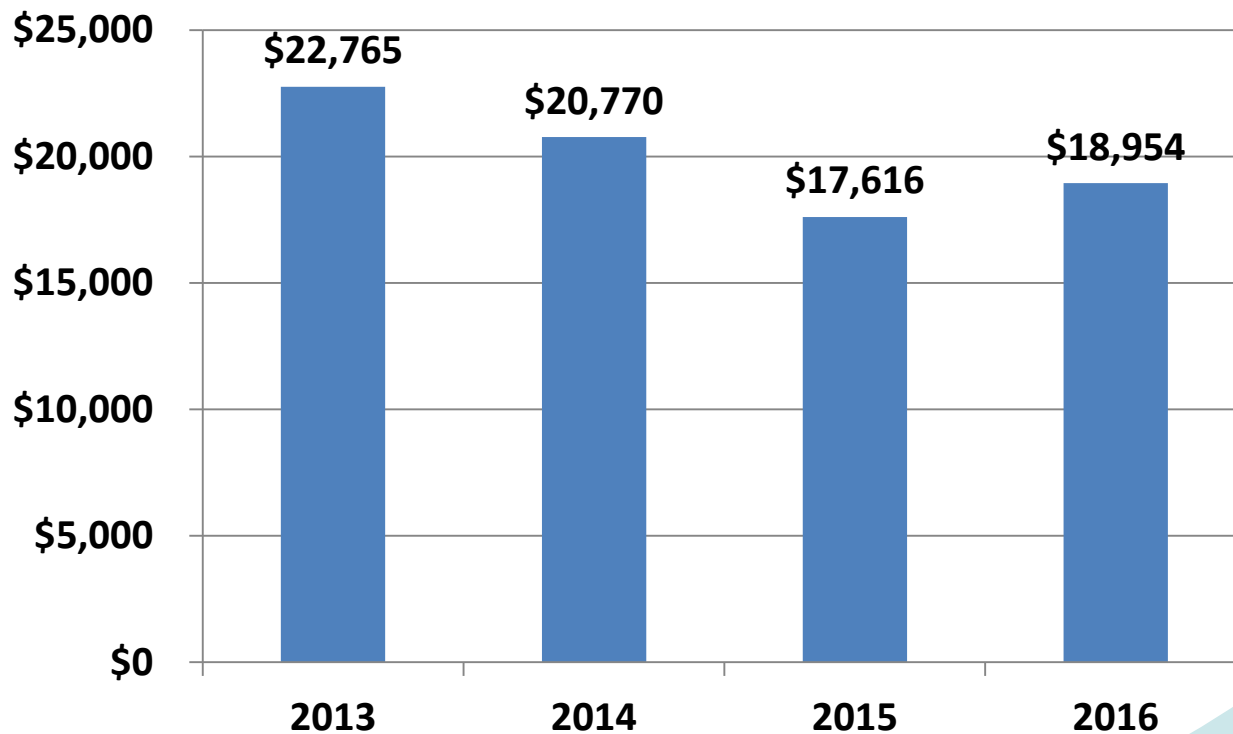
Recent decline in revenue per vessel

Source: eDealer Data



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Revenue per trip 2013 – 2016 (not including BFT)



2016 increase in revenue per trip

Source: eDealer Data

What We Have Heard in Recent Months

- IBQ online system is complex
- Disbursement of IBQ (use or lose, timing)
- Leasing price and system is expensive and constraining
- Directed BFT fishery created
- Rescind trip level accountability
- Need access to closed area, IBQ system adequate to limit BFT catch
- Concern about Purse Seine leasing pattern
- Could NMFS reallocate unused Purse Seine quota to Reserve?
- Concern about overall fairness of Longline vs. General category regulations (retention limit, # of permits)





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3-year Review of IBQ Catch Share Program

- Data reflecting the fishery under Amendment 7: 2015 – 2017 Scope: compare fishery pre- A7 to A7 fishery
- Variety of metrics as specified by NMFS guidance for catch share programs
- Target dates:
Preliminary info: spring 2018 HMS AP meeting
Draft document: fall 2018 HMS AP meeting



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Questions?

ADDITIONAL RECENT DATA ON PELAGIC LONGLINE FISHERY





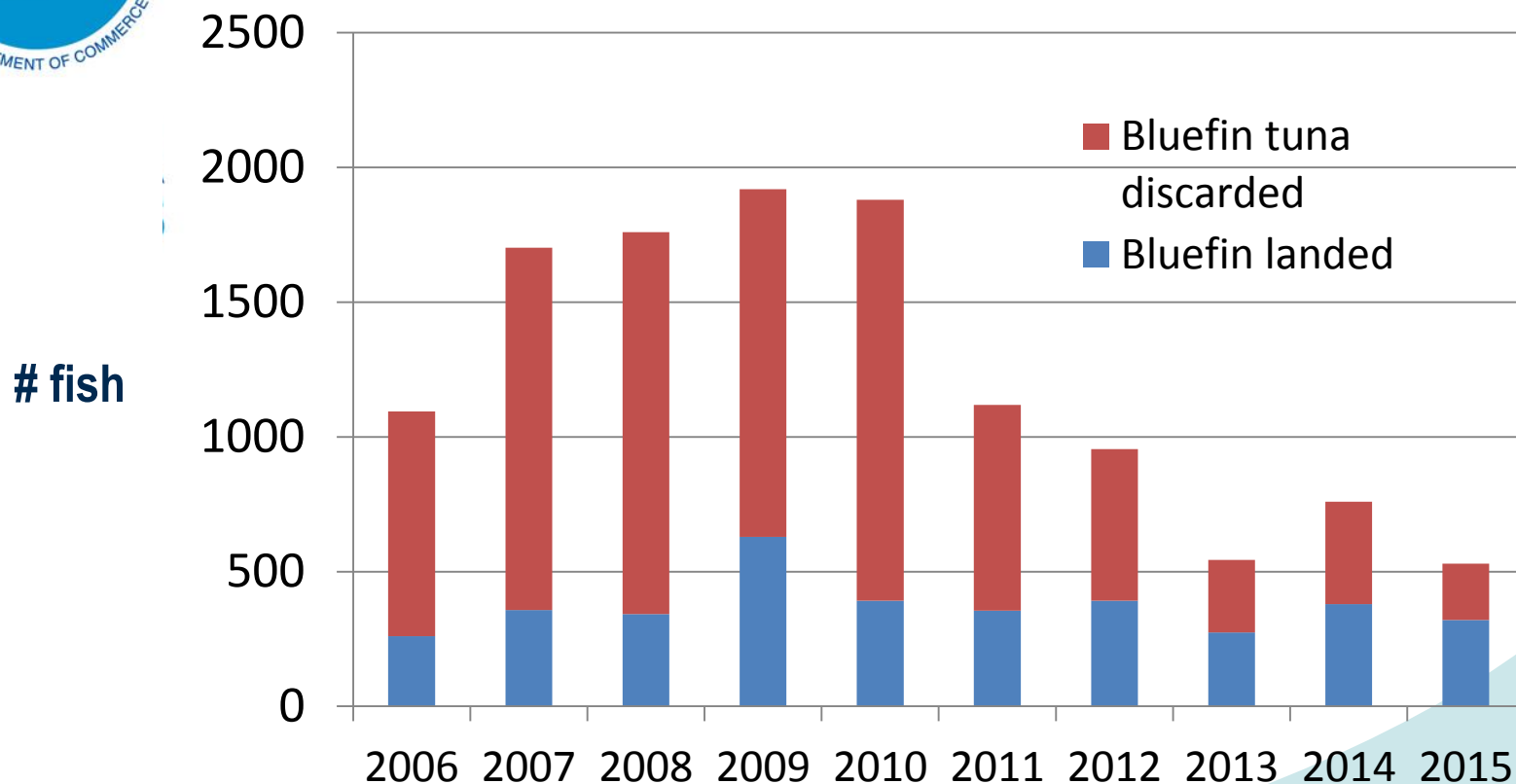
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IBQ Online System Improvements

- Redesigned Shareholder home page – most relevant information & easy to understand
- Quota debt can be ‘paid’/‘resolved’ by shareholder
- Under development: ‘Bulletin board’ to help vessel owners find others interested in leasing quota (in the IBQ system)



BFT Landings and Total Discards 2006 to 2015 (by PLL vessels)



BFT landings have been fairly consistent, total discards declined since 2010

Source: Logbook Data;



BFT Interactions by Month 2015, 2016 (# fish)

Source: VMS BFT catch reports

Month	2015	2016
Jan	15	30
Feb	13	48
Mar	21	59
Apr	14	37
May	36	50
Jun	68	632*
Jul	91	93

*June 2016: 188 retained; 343 released alive; 101 dead discards;

34 vessels with interactions; 8 vessels responsible for 76% of interactions, with the highest 3 vessels responsible for 51% of interactions. June interactions represent 74% of interactions and June dead discards represent 67% of dead discards (from Jan to June 2016). The 5 vessels with most interactions in June leased 56 % of all the IBQ leased from Jan through July. Locations of high numbers include: NE corner of June closed area (S of Georges Bank east of Long Island) and off VA/MD.



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IBQ Leasing Summary 2015-2016 (Jan-Jul)

Metric	2015 (Jan-Jul)	2016 (Jan-Jul)
# transactions	21	68
# shareholders	34	55
Total pounds	91,030 lb	124,254 lb
# amount paid*	\$ 178,296	\$ 184,826
Average price/lb	\$ 3.75	\$ 2.76

*Incomplete price data;

2015: n = 7 with price info

2016: n = 39 with non-zero price; 20 zero; 6 no data; 3 IBQ loans;
includes purse seine data



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Electronic Monitoring (EM) Program Status

Installations: 112 pelagic longline vessels out of 136 eligible
(NMFS approved contractor: Saltwater, Inc.)

Hard drive submission: 2016 (Jan – Jun)

- Number of vessels submitting: 77
- Average # vessels submitting each month: 46
- Total hard drives submitted: 463
- Average # of hard drives submitted each month: 77



Electronic Monitoring (EM) Program Status, Audits (review of videos for BFT)

Audit Period (3 months)	# sets audited	# vessels audited	% of sets	% of trips	# sets with BFT interactions	% of audited sets with BFT interactions
(1) Jun – Aug 2015	124	42	7 %	18 %	8	6 %
(2) Sep – Nov 2015	68	25	5 %	11 %	8	12 %
(3) Dec 2015 – Feb 2016	144	44	13 %	25 %	13	9 %



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Electronic Monitoring (EM) Program Status

Electronic Monitoring Data (audit) versus Vessel Reported (VMS) data	Audit Period 3
% of sets where BFT recorded in audit and vessel reported BFT	91 %
% of sets where # of BFT in audit matched # reported by vessel	73 %
% of sets where # of BFT reported by vessel exceeded # recorded by audit	18 %



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Electronic Monitoring (EM) Program Status

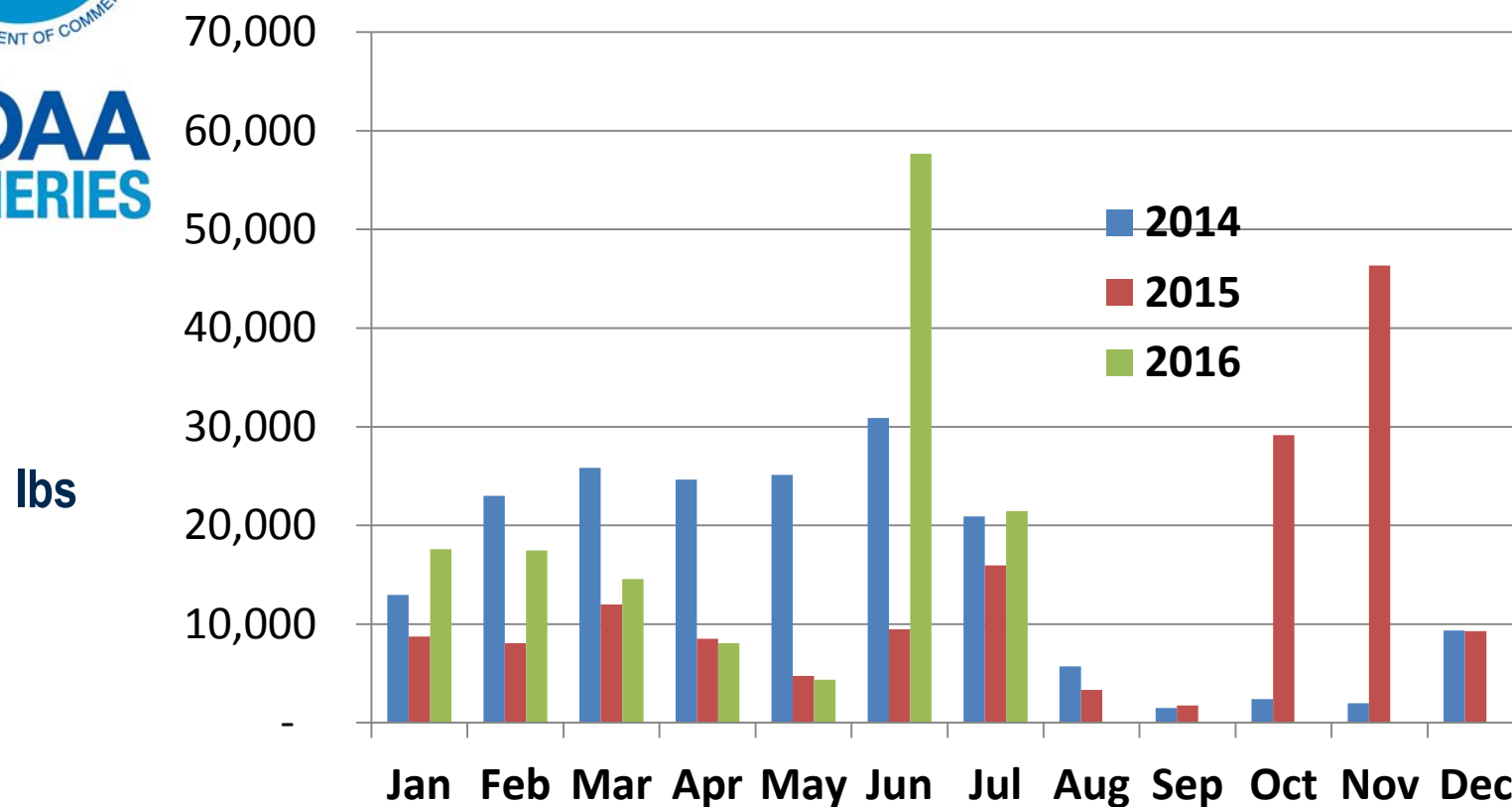
Use of Activity Recognition (AR) Software implemented.

- The method of video review is currently transitioning from a fully manual review to a combination automated and manual review.
- "Activity recognition" software locates fish events on the video (automated aspect), and video reviewer identifies BFT and estimates sizes of BFT ('manual'). Using fully manual review, approximately 3 longline sets can be reviewed in a day. The Activity Recognition software speeds up the review time by approximately 2.5 times.



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BFT Landings by PLL by month 2014 – 2016*



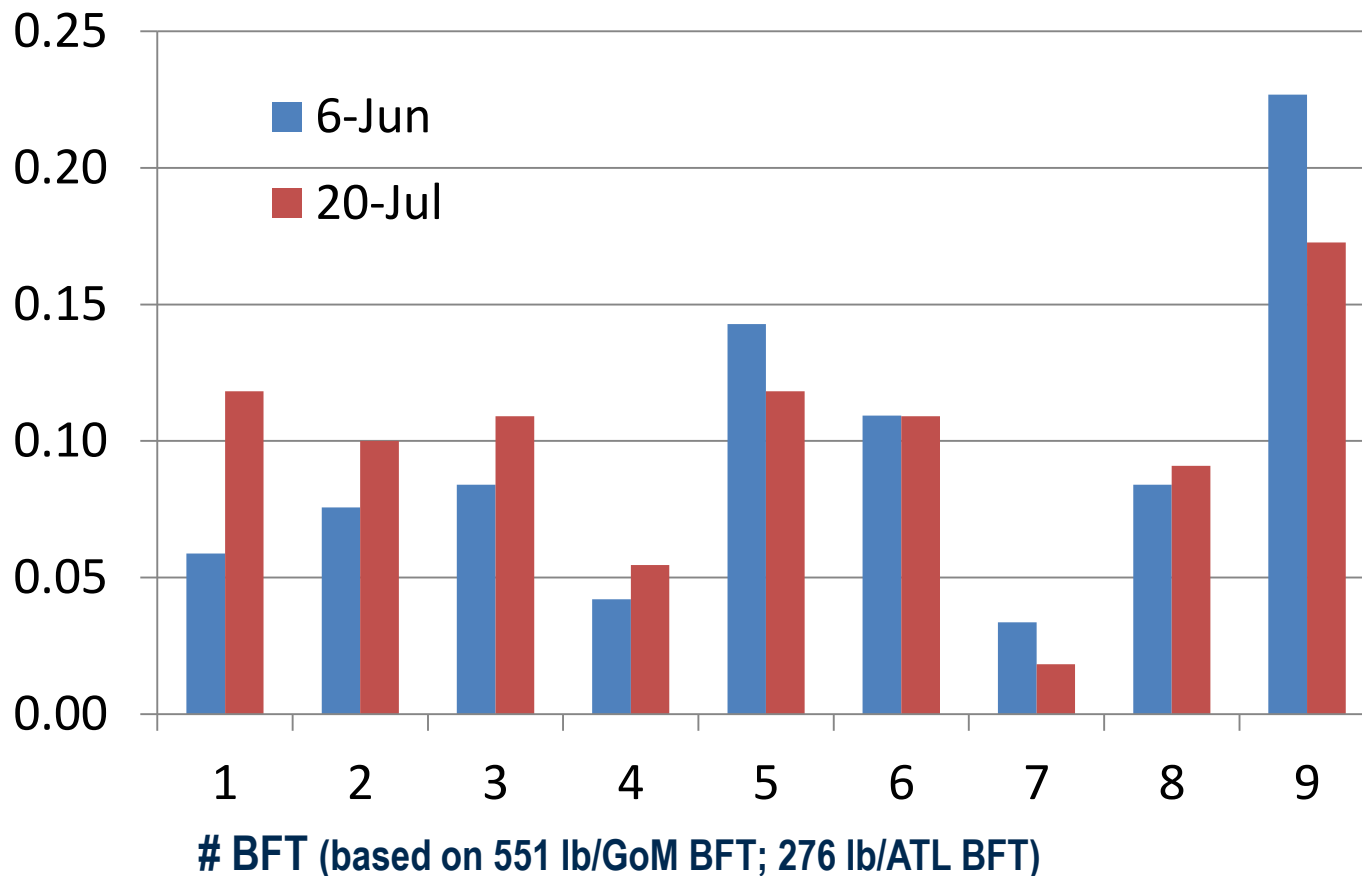
Source: Dealer and IBQ Data; * through July 2016



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Proportion of
vessels (with
IBQ equiv. to
of BFT)

Recent IBQ Balances, 2016



Source: IBQ system; Notes: # vessels with at least 1 BFT: 110 (Jun) & 109 (Jul);
% of vessel with > 9 BFT: 14% (Jun) and 11% (Jul)

PLL Trips by Area 2012 – 2015* **(and % change comparing 2015 to the average of 2012 - 2014)**

Area	2012	2013	2014	2015	% change
CAR	2	15	15	7	- 34 %
FEC	360	335	332	249	- 27 %
GOM	461	407	361	262	- 36 %
MAB	448	445	385	367	- 14 %
NCA	3	3	1	3	29 %
NEC	78	59	64	62	- 7%
NED	9	8	15	15	41 %
SAB	202	260	222	189	- 17%
SAR	7	5	12	13	63 %
SAT	22	21	15	18	- 5 %

Source: Logbook data





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PLL Trips by Area 2015 – 2016 **Jan - Jun**

Area	2015	2016
CAR	29	31
FEC	946	509
GOM	935	844
MAB	317	260
NCA	15	0
NEC	88	18
NED	1	0
SAB	968	770
SAR	163	64
SAT	98	41

Source: Logbook data; 2016 preliminary